

KRABI

TOURIST INFORMATION

Krabi Province

Krabi is a southern province on Thailand's Andaman seaboard with perhaps the country's oldest history of continued settlement. After dating stone tools, ancient coloured pictures, beads, pottery and skeleton remains found in the province's many cliffs and caves, it is thought that Krabi has been home to *Homo sapiens* since the period 25,000-35,000 B.C. In recorded times it was called the 'Ban Thai Samor', and was one of twelve towns that used, before people were widely literate, the monkey for their standard. At that time, c. 1200 A.D., Krabi was tributary to the Kingdom of Ligor, a city on the Kra Peninsula's east coast better known today as Nakorn Sri Thammarat.



At the start of the Rattanakosin period, about 200 years ago, when the capital was finally settled at Bangkok, an elephant kraal was established in Krabi by order of Jao Praya Nakorn (Noy), the Rajah of Nakorn Sri Thammarat, which was by then a part of the Thai Kingdom. He sent his vizier, the Pra Palad to oversee this task, which was to ensure a regular supply of elephants for the larger town. So many emigrated in the steps of the Pra Palad that soon Krabi had a large community in three different boroughs: Pakasai, Klong Pon, and Pak Lao.

In 1872, King Chulalongkorn graciously elevated these to town status, called Krabi, a word that preserves in its meaning the monkey symbolism of the old standard. The town's first governor was Luang Tehp Sena, though it continued a while as a dependency of Nakorn Sri Thammarat. This was changed in 1875, when Krabi was raised to a fourth level town in the old system of Thai government. Administrators then reported directly to the central government in Bangkok, and Krabi's history as a unique entity, separate from the other provinces, had begun.

During the present reign, the corps of civil servants, the merchants, and the population generally of Krabi and nearby provinces have together organized a royal residence at Laem Hahng Nak Cape for presentation to Her Majesty the Queen. This lies thirty kilometers to the west of Krabi Town on the Andaman coast.

THAI TERM GLOSSARY

NOTE : English spelling here given tries to approximate Thai pronunciation. Posted signs may be spelled differently. When seeking help from a Thai for directions, point to the Thai spellings given after each place name.

AHMPER	: District
AO	: Bay
BAN	: Village or house
CHAO LEY	: Nation of the sea; the sea gipsies
HAHT	: Beach
KANAB	: Flanked on two sides
KAO	: Mountain or rocky island
KLONG	: Stream of canal
KOH	: Island (<i>N.B. The k in koh is pronounced much like hard g</i>)
LAEM	: Cape, point, or headland
LOD	: To penetrate through to the other side (Indicates a hole or tunnel)
MUANG	: Town or city
NAI	: Inner
NAM	: Water
NEUA	: North
NOK	: Outer
NOY	: Lesser or small
OKK	: East
PAK	: Mouth (<i>of a river, etc.</i>)
RAI	: 1600 square meters (Flat measure)
SAN JAO	: Chinese temple
TAHM	: Cave
TAI	: South
TAMBON	: Sub-district
TOK	: West
WAT	: Thai temple
YAI	: Big



PRESENT DAY GOVERNMENT

Krabi is divided into eight districts : Muang (Krabi Twon), Kao Panom, Klong Tom, Plai Praya, Koh Lanta, Ao Luk, Lam Tap, and Neua Klong.

SIZE, LOCATION, AND BOUNDARIES

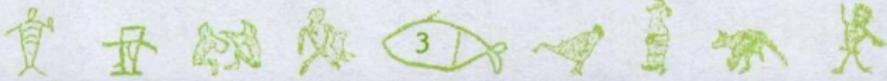
Krabi is on the Andaman Sea coast of southwest Thailand, between 7' 30" and 8' 30" north latitude, and 98' 30" and 99' 30" west longitude, Total area is 4,709 square kilometers bounded thus :

On the North : Lie Phang-nga and Surat Thani Provinces

On the South : Lie Trang Province and the Andaman Sea

On the East : Lie Trang and Nakorn Sri Thammarat Provinces

On the West : Lie Phang-nga Province and the Andaman Sea



POPULATION

Krabi's estimated population, as of 31 December 1999, was 358,383.

GEOGRAPHY

Krabi's mountainous physical geography is broken by highlands and plains on the mainland; the provincial administration also covers more than 130 islands big and small in the Andaman. Natural forest cover is chiefly mangrove and Cassia trees. Krabi's sandy clay soil conditions are perfect for a variety of agricultural products, including : Rubber trees, palms, oranges, coconuts, and coffee. The Krabi River flows 5 kilometers through the city and falls into the Andaman at Tambon Pak Nam. There are other streams as well : The Klong Pakasai ; the Klong Krabi Yai ; and the Klong Krabi Noy ; these have their source in the province's highest range of mountains, the Kao Panom Benja.

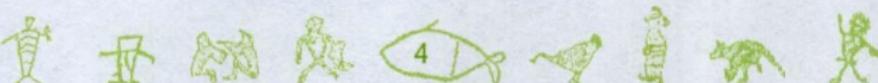
CLIMATE

Weather in Krabi is typically that of the tropical monsoon, providing the province with just two seasons, the hot season from November to April, and the rainy season from May to October. Monsoon winds, which change according to season, blow from the southeast, the southwest, and the northeast. Temperatures for the year range between 16.9 and 37.3 degrees Celsius ; yearly rainfall averages 2,568.5 millimeters.

TRAVEL

By Road From Bangkok take Route 4, passing Petchburi, Prajuab-Kirikan, Chumporn, Ranong, and Phang-nga Provinces before reaching Krabi ; a total distance of 946 kilometers. An alternate route is to take Route 4 to Chumporn and then turn onto Route 41. This leads through Lang Suan District of Chumporn to Chaiya and Wieng Sah Districts of Surat Thani ; from there follow Route 4035, passing Ao Luk Disrtict of Krabi, back onto Route 4, and down to Krabi Town. This shortcut is just 814 kilometers, and is followed by the bus services from Bangkok. For information regarding bus transport, contact tel. (02) 4351195-6 (non-air conditioned buses); or tel. (02) 435 1200 (air conditioned buses).

From Phuket take Route 402 to Route 4 and pass Tambon Kok Kloy of Takua Tung District in Phang-nga; Tap Puhd District Phang-nga; and enter Ao Luk District of Krabi; the Total distance is 185 kilometers. Regarding bus transport, tel. (076) 211 480



By Train From Bangkok Station take the train to one of the following stations: Trang, Puhn Pin in Surathani Province, or Tung Song in Nakorn Sri Thammarat Province; from any of these places a bus may be taken onward to Krabi, Regarding train schedules and costs, contact the office of State Railway of Thailand, tel. (02) 223 7010

By Air Details about flights to and from Krabi Airport can be obtained from Thai International Airways Ltd., in Bangkok Tel. (02) 280 0070, 280 0080, or in Krabi Tel. (075) 620 070-1, Bangkok Airways Tel. (075) 636 543-4, and P.B. Air Tel. (075) 691 942

Places of Interest in AO LUK DISTRICT



Tarnbohk Korani National Park (อุทยานแห่งชาติธารโบกขรณี) covers 37.5 rai (1 rai=1600 square meters) in Tambon Ao Luk Tai, one kilometer from the Tambon Ao Luk Neua market intersection on the Ao Luk-Laem Sak road. The park is shady and forested by many different species of trees growing round the attractive pond after which the park is named, the Sah Bohk Korani. Species include the wild gardenia, asoka, and Apocynaceae. The Sah Bohk Korani flows through a wind passage in the mountain; at the north end of the pool is a footprint of the Buddha carved in wood near the little temple sacred to Jao Pör Toh Yuan-Toh Chong

Tahm Lod Neua-Tai (ถ้ำลอดเห็น-o-ใต้) lie 2 kilometers distant from the district offices on the Ao Luk-Laem Sak road near the watercourse of Klong Ta Prahng. There are two caves :

- ◆ **Tahm Lod Neua** : This beautiful cave winds back on itself like an elbow.
- ◆ **Tahm Lod Tai** : is a limestone tunnel longer and narrower than one of the same name in Phang-nga Bay. The cave mouth has stalactites and stalagmites and a boulder shaped like the quarter moon lying on its side. Visit this cave when the water is low by boarding a longtail boat at Bor Tor Pier ; the journey takes only 10 minutes.



Prah Cave (ถ้ำพระ) is the site of the Kao Prah Suhn Yah Tah Rahm Meditation Centre. It is about 2 Kilometers distant from the district offices of Ao Luk. Inside the cave is a Buddhist effigy of great antiquity. This has two other statues of equal size flanking it placed at a later date, and the base is surrounded with smaller wooden figures.

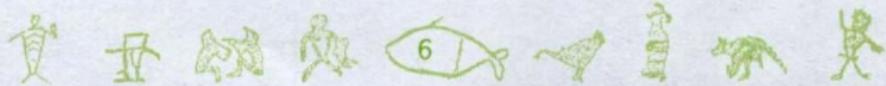


Pet Cave (ถ้ำเพชร) is 3 Kilometers from the Ao Luk Neua Market. The cave's front has Buddhist statues and the cave walls are of a stone that reflects light with the same dazzling beauty as diamond, hence the name; Pet is Thai for diamond. To visit the cave, procure a guide from the Tarnbohk Koranii National Park and be sure to bring a flashlight or torch.

Chao Ley Cave (ถ้ำช่าวเล) is west of Laem Sak Cape in a beautiful bay surrounding with limestone mountains. Inside are stalactites and stalagmites, as well as prehistoric paintings of people, animals, and geometric. These paintings are thought to be somewhat more recent than those found in Pi Hua Toh Cave. To visit the cave, take a regularly scheduled boat from the Sapan Pla of Fishing Pier at Laem Sak Cape; travel time is about 15 minutes.



Pi Hua Toh or Hua Gah Lohk Cave (ถ้ำผีหัวโตหรือถ้ำหัวกระโหลก) This is a big cave with many grottos in a mountain surrounded by water and mangrove forests. Formerly a ghost with an impressively large skull resided in the cave, from which comes its name; pihua toh means big-headed ghost. Also of interest are the many prehistoric coloured pictures of men, animals, and various limbs and organs that decorate the walls. Shells in great numbers, on top of the other, are another feature of this cave. To visit Pi Hua Toh, board a ferry at Bor Tor Pier.



Song Pi Nong Cave or Poon Neua Tai Cave (ถ้ำสองพี่น้องหรือถ้ำปูนเหนือ-ใต้) lies west of Pi Hua Cave Toh. Inside were found human skeleton remains, pottery, earrings, and bronze bracelets.

Hua Galohk Nai Cave or Buhn Mahk Cave (ถ้ำหัวกระโหลกในหรือถ้ำบุญมาก) is only one hundred meters from Pi Hua Toh cave. It was discovered by a local villager named Buhn Mahk. It is a large, dark cave filled with stalactites and stalagmites. A large number of prehistoric pottery shards were found in layers on the cave wall outcropping near the entrance. These have distinctive line designs, are thicker, and coarser than those found elsewhere.

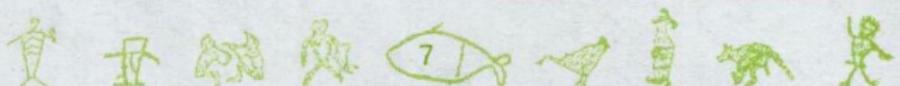
Toh Luang Cave (ถ้ำโต๊ะหลวง) in Ban Nohp, Tambon Klong Hin. This cave has three levels, each of which abounds in stalactites and stalagmites. Some resemble Buddhist monks, others look like legendary multi headed serpents. Here stayed Jao Por Toh Luang, after whom the cave took its name.

Seua Noi Cave (ถ้ำเสือน้อย) This cave is 2 kilometers distant from Hua Galohk cave in Ban Bor Tor and is the site of a monastery and meditation centre. The front is formed by a broad outcropping in the hill. The area outside is peaceful and quiet; inside, the cave is beautiful. Many old pottery remains have been found here.

Seua Nok Cave or Tehp Nimit Cave (ถ้ำเสืออกหรือถ้ำเทพนิมิต) houses the Nimit Monastery, a tunnel below the cave lets sea water enter so the walls are thick with shells. Above is another large, dark cave, and off to the side of that another fifty meters is Orahan Cave, which has more strangely shaped stalactites and stalagmites than anywhere else. They shine like lights and are very beautiful.

Klong Chai Kao (คลองชายเขา) is like Maya Bay in Koh Phi Phi. A longtail boat can be taken through the cave to the other side in about five minutes.

Garos Island (เกาะกาuros) is off the eastern tip of Laem Sak. Ancient paintings of men and animals are on the cliff walls facing Hin Bai Bay.



Talu Island (ເກະທະລູ) The center of this island has a 45 meter high hill, perforated by a 30 meter hole, thus its name; talu means to passthrough. The island is noted for the presence of swifts in large numbers that make the precious swallow bird's nests used in the Chinese delicacy, Bird's Nest Soup.

Daeng Island (ເກະແດງ) Here is a fine sandy beach 25 meters long, and a passage through the cliff 70 meters wide and 20 meters high.

Hong Islands (ໜູ້ເກະຫົວງ) comprises a number of large and small limestone islands. Hong Island also called Lao Billeh Island is the largest. These rugged islands are shaped like half-circles, forming bays in which there is both shallow and deep water coral. Perfect for diving and fishing. The best known islands besides Hong Island are: Lakkah or Sakkah; Lao Riem; Pakka; and Lao Lahding Islands. Boats leave for the Hong Islands from Ao Nang Beach; the trip takes about one hour.

Places of Interest in

MUANG DISTRICT

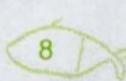
(KRABI TOWN DISTRICT)



Kao Kanab Nam (ເຂົານານັ້ນ້າ) These two hills, roughly 100 meters high, flank the Krabi River running between them to form a distinctive vista and the town's most prominent landmark. To visit them, take a longtail boat from Jao Fah Pier; travel time is just 15 minutes. From there take stairs leading up to caves with stalactites and stalagmites. A large number of human skeletons have been found here. It is theorized that they are the remains of people who came and established a home at Kanab Nam, but were cut off by an inundation and quickly perished.

Nopparat Thara Beach - Phi Phi Islands National Park

This lies in Tambon Nong Talay, Tambon Sai Thai, Tambon Ao Nang, and Tambon Pak Nam, with many interesting places to see. Among which are :



Nopparat Thara Beach (หาดนพรัตน์ธารา) In times past villagers in the area called this three kilometer long beach Haht Klong Haeng, meaning Dry Stream Beach, because when the tide ebbs the stream flowing from the northern mountains almost disappears, so that the beach has no shore and stretches all the way to Koh Kao Pak Klong Island. In the vicinity of the beach are many places to stay serving tourists. Details and further information may be obtained by writing to Nopparat Thara Beach National Park, P.O.Box 23, Muang District, Krabi 81000, Tel. (075) 637436 or call National National Park Headquarters, The Royal Forestry Dept., tel (02) 5790529



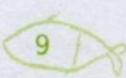
Shell Cemetery (สุสานหอย) The shell graveyard at Ban Laem Poh was once a large freshwater swamp, home to a kind of snail. Over eons dating from the Tertiary Age, about 40 million years ago, these snails lived and died by the million, to the extent that

the dead snails formed a layer upon which existed the living. Eventually, weather changes precipitated the swamp's disappearance, but by then the layer of fossilized snail shells was forty centimeters thick, resting



on ten centimeters of lignite below which is the subsoil. Because of geographic upheaval, this shelly limestone is now distributed in great broken sheets of impressive magnitude on the seashore at Cape Laem Poh.

Ao Nang (อ่าวนาň) This bay is beautiful and at the same time very strange to the eye because of its limestone mountains. Its famous beaches include Rai Ley, Tahm Pra Nang (where the tahm, or cave, is sacred to local villagers) and Nam Mao; none of these can be reached by road. However, boats leave regularly from the accessible part of Ao Nang to take visitors to them. There are also other islands to visit as well : Kai Island. Tap Island, Mor Island, and Podah Island, where there are clean sandy beaches, clear water and schools of colourful fishes in abundance perfect for diving, snorkeling, or swimming. Boats to the islands are boarded at Ao Nang



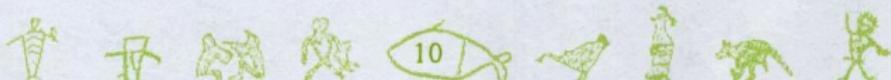


Phi Phi Islands (หมู่เกาะพีพี) The name is derived from Malay, and the original was Pulao Pi ah Pi, where in pulao is the Malay word for island, and pi, pronounced with only a half p sound, was very close in pronunciation to the English word be; the ah was eventually dropped, so the name was said something like Bi Bi. Later the p was pronounced with a stronger aspiration and the name became the Pi Pi we know today (the h with which it is usually spelled is confusing and superfluous). The name refers to the mangrove wood found there. Six islands are in the group; Phi Phi Don, Phi Phi Ley, Biddah Nok, Biddah Nai, Yung, and Pai; total area is about 35 square kilometers, They were incorporated into the national park in 1983. Some of the interesting places to visit include:

Yung Island (เกาะยุง) lies to the north of Phi Phi Don. There is a rocky beach on the east side, and a smaller strand of sand in a fold of the hill. Many beautiful and various corals are found there.

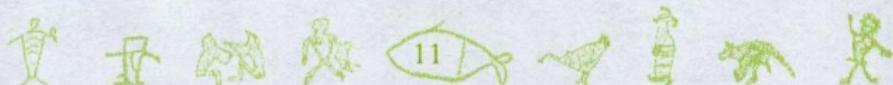
Pai Island (เกาะไฟ) lies also to the north of Phi Phi Don, not far from Koh Yung. Sandy beaches are on the north and east sides of the island. Broad coral reefs stretch away into the south.

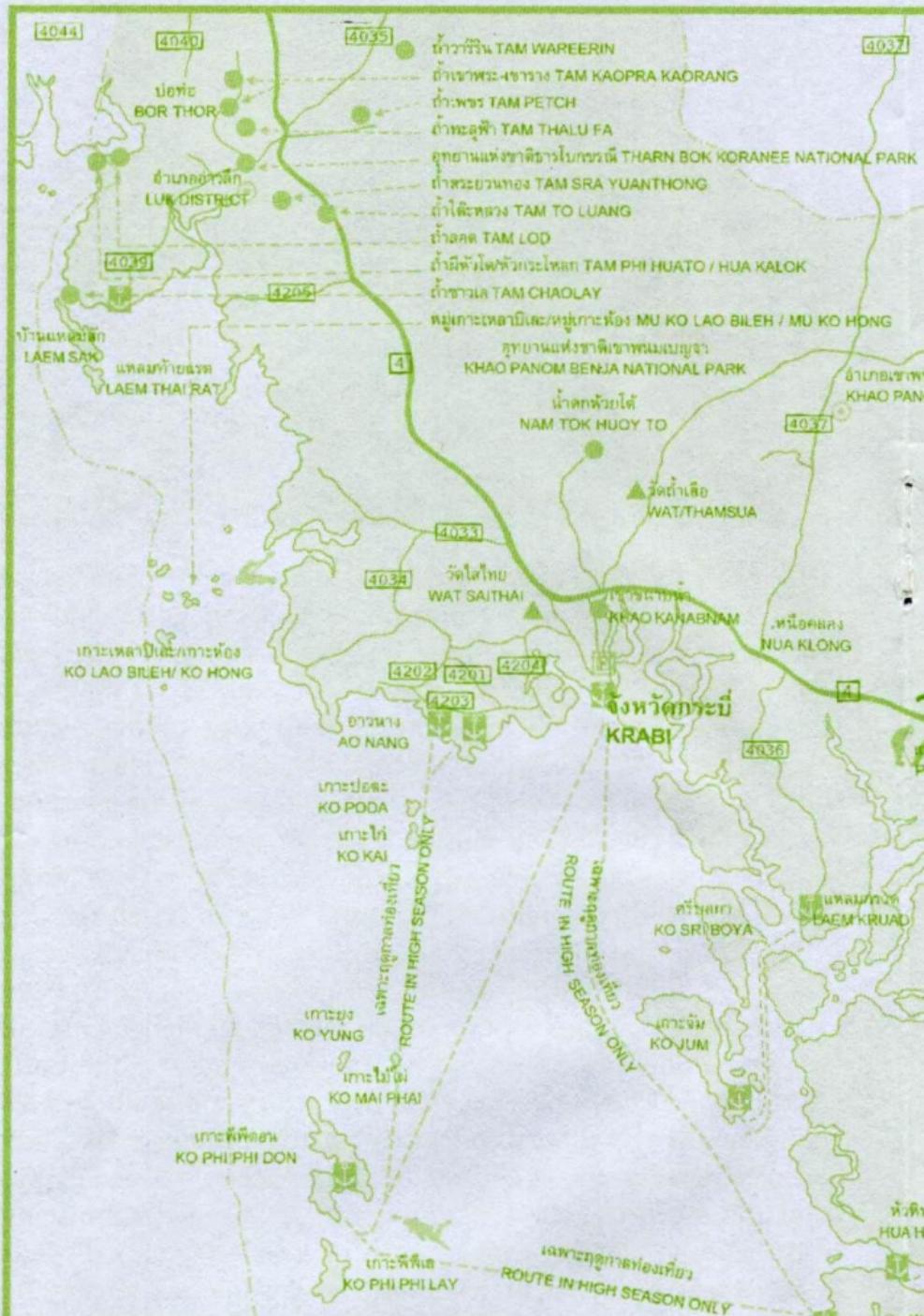
Phi Phi Don Island (เกาะ พีพี ดอน) covers a total area of 28 square kilometers: 8 kilometers in length and 3.5 at its broadest point. At the north end is Cape Laem Tohng, where there is a Chao Ley, or sea gipsy village. These sea gipsies emigrated from Koh Lipeh in Tarutao National Park, near the border with Malaysia. Diving at Laem Tohng is excellent, as it is also at Hua Rah Ket to the extreme south. There are long beaches with rocks scattered about. Two curving bays are especially beautiful : Ton Sai and Loh Dalam. This is also where accommodations and tourist services are found.





Phi Phi Ley Island (ເກົກະ ພີ ພີ ່ເຍ) is 6.6 square kilometers in total area: 3 Kilometers in length and 1 at its broadest point. The island is entirely limestone and steep cliffs rising from the sea very nearly ring it. Surrounding waters average about 20 meters in depth, reaching 34 meters at the deepest point off the island's southern tip. Phi Phi Ley has several beautiful bays: Pileh, Maya, and Loh Samah; Ao Pileh is very nearly enclosed by the limestone walls of the island's cliffs, so that the water appears almost to be an inland sea. On Phi Phi Ley's northeast is the famous Viking Cave; this was renamed by H.M.Rama IX when he visited it in 1972, Tahm Pya Nak, from the shape of a particular boulder, which resembles in shape the head of the great serpent of Buddhist legend, the Naga. It is a place much revered by the local people who come there to collect the swift's nests used to make Bird's Nest Soup, a Chinese delicacy. On the eastern and southern walls of the cave are coloured drawings dating from historic times. There are pictures of elephants and also of various boats: European, Arab, and Chinese sailing ships; barques, motorboats, and steamships. It is theorized that these pirates who paused in their travels from west to east, sheltering in the cave to escape the monsoon winds, transfer cargo, or make repairs. Travel to the Phi Phi islands Tour operators in both Phuket and Krabi provide transport and tour packages to this popular destination. Regular boat service is available from Jao Fah pier in Krabi.





SYMBOLS สัญลักษณ์

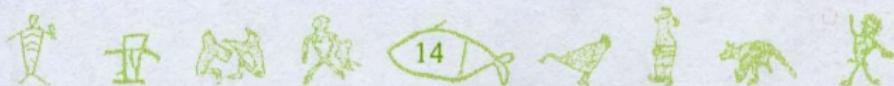
	: NATIONAL HIGHWAY	ทางหลวงแผ่นดิน
	: PROVINCIAL HIGHWAY	ทางหลวงจังหวัด
	: PROVINCIAL BOUNDARY	เส้นแบ่งเขตจังหวัด
	: BOAT ROUTE	เส้นทางเดินเรือ
	: TOWN	จังหวัด
	: DISTRICT	อำเภอ
	: TEMPLE	วัด
	: PIER	ท่าเทียบเรือ
	: TOURIST ATTRACTION	สถานที่ท่องเที่ยว
	: DIVING	แหล่งดำน้ำ
	: GOLF COURSE	สนามกอล์ฟ
	: SEA CANOE	เรือคานู
	: KRABI AIRPORT	สนามบินกาญจน์

Sadet Cave (ถ้ำเสด็จ) This cave, situated 7 kilometers from Krabi Town in Tambon Sai Thai, has lovely stalactites and stalagmites. The cave was visited in 1909 by King Rama VI before succeeding to the throne, and has been called by local people Tahm Sadet a Thai word meaning royal journey ever since.

Sah Gaew (สารแก้ว) 8 natural springs large and small, the crystal clarity of which gives this place its name, Crystal Springs. They are in Tambon Kao Tong on the Krabi-Nai Sah road, and each has a name : Nam Lod (Water Passing Through), Cherng Kao (Valley), Jorakeh Kao (White Crocodile), Nam Tip (Heavenly Waters), Nam Krahm (Indigo Waters), Morakot (Emerald), Huhn Gaeng (Barking Deer), and Noy (Small).

Tahm Seua Kao Gaew Ao Luhk Tanu Monastery (สำนักวิปัสสนาถ้ำเสือเข้าแก้วอ่าวลูกธนู) lies in Ban Tahm Seua of Tambon Krabi Noy, 9 Kilometers from Krabi Town. Tahm Seua means Tiger Cave, and the reason for this name is that an especially large tiger once lived there. It roamed the foothills of the Ao Luhk Tanu Mountains, also called Kao Gaew. Inside the cave are natural rock impressions of tiger paws. Outside, the forest has great trees hundreds of years old growing in a fold of Kao Kiriwohng Mountain. Many other caves large and small are found in the mountains that surround the monastery. Among the best known are Kohn Tahn (Heavenly Musicians'), Lod (Passing Through), Chahng Gaew (Crystal Elephant), Luhk Tanu (Arrow), and Prah (Monk's). Aside from the monastery itself, this area has another aspect of interest, especially to archaeologists: Many stone tools, pottery shards, and unfired clay holy images have been found, dating from prehistoric into historic times.

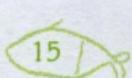
Huay Toh Waterfall (น้ำตกหวยโต้) This waterfall has eleven levels and springs from the Kao Panom Mountains in Tambon Tap Prik, Kao Panom Mountains in Tambon Tap Prik, on the Sri Trang - Pracha - uit road. Each level contains behind its falls a pool of naturally clear, clean water 4-5 meters in diameter. The pools are named, and the best known are: Wahng Tewada (Angel's), Wahng Sohk (Year's), and Wahng Jahn (Platter).



Jahm Island or Poo Island (เกาะจำหรือเกาะปู) A large Muslim-populated island forming its own sub-district in Krabi. The population engages mostly in fishing, rubber cultivation and the local craft of cloth weaving. This last has become so well-known that Krabi province is famous for its cloth, called Pah Tor Koh Poo woven cloth. During the fair-weather months of dry season, passage to the island can be made by taking a boat from the Jao Fah pier in Krabi Town; when the weather is rainy, take a boat from Laem Kruad pier (ท่าเรือแหลมกรวด) in Neua Klong District. Beach bungalows are available for overnight visitors.

Sri Bor Yah Island (เกาะสีบอยา) This island lies not far from Jahm Island and is likewise populated by Muslims engaged in fishing and rubber planting. The atmosphere is quiet and pleasant, perfect for unhurried holiday relaxation. Beach bungalows are available. During fair - weather months take the boat from Jao Fah pier in Krabi Town; in rainy season, leave from Laem Kruad pier (ท่าเรือแหลมกรวด) in Neua Klong District

Kao Panom Benjah National Park (อุทยานแห่งชาติเขานมเนื้อเจา) lies about 20 kilometers from Krabi Town on the Talahd Gao-Ban Huay Toh Road. The park covers an area of 50.12 square kilometers in parts of three districts: Kao Panom, Ahmper Muang, and Ao leuk. It is composed mainly of virgin forest growing amid craggy hills and valleys. There are a number of interesting places to visit :



Tahm Kao Peung (Bee's Cave) (ถ้ำเขาผึ้ง) 5 caves with stalactites and stalagmites of different shapes lying 3 kilometers distant from the National Park Offices. Some resemble stupas, others mushrooms, a curtain, etc. The cave walls are sparkling white and dazzlingly beautiful. Tourist accommodations and services are available nearby; to make reservations, contact the Kao Panom Benjah National Park Office, Ahmper Muang, Krabi 81000.

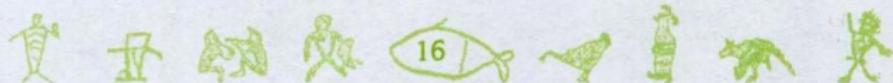
Huay Sah Deh Waterfall (น้ำตกห้วยสะเด) springs from a steep cliff 1.2 kilometers from the park offices.

Nam Tohk Klong Haeng (น้ำตกคลองแห้ง) The source of this 500 meter tall waterfall in Mount Tehp Benjah, the tallest mountain in Krabi. It lies about 10 kilometers from the Kao Panom District offices.

Toh Hahn Waterfall (น้ำตกตันหาร) This falls has its source in the Kao Panom Benjah Mountains like Klong Haeng Waterfall, but it is not as tall. It lies 16 kilometers from the Kao Panom district offices.

Places of Interest in **KLONG TOM DISTRICT**

Wat Klong Tom Museum (พิพิธภัณฑ์สถานวัดคลองท่อม) This contains stone tools, bronze implements, metal coins, pottery shards, ceramic and stone decorative arts, and coloured beads more than five-thousand years old dug from excavations in the area. The museum is on the grounds of Klong Tom Temple in Tambon Klong Tom Tai, 1 kilometer distant from Klong Tom District offices.



Hot Springs (ธารน้ำร้อน) These are 12 kilometers from the Klong Tom District office in Tambon Klong Tom Neua. The area is forested and shady; the hot springs are hotter than others nearby.

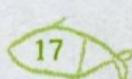
Tung Tiao (ทุ่งเตียว) This is one of only a few lowland forests in Southern Thailand. The nature trail begins about 800 meters before reaching the Kao Nor Ju Ji Park Office within the Restricted Hunting Area of Kao Pra-Bang Kram. It passes through both secondary forest, now in the process of development and growth and primary forest containing very large, ancient trees. The trail climbs into the limestone foothills, passing a pool of startling clarity and beauty. After that it enters an area open and spacious before returning to the park office. Many animals and plant species in the lowland forest are extremely rare, some are close to extinction. Of particular note is the colourful Pitta Gurney bird, or nohk taew laew tong dahm in Thai, which was long thought wiped out but has recently been re-discovered living in Tung Tiao.

Nam Tohk Hin Perng (น้ำตกหินเพิง) This three-level falls drops from a height of 800 meters and lies in Ban Hin Perng in Tambon Klong Pohn, 25 kilometers from the Klong Tom District offices. The area is forested and shady.

Koh Silah (เกาะศิลา) On this island are found many colourful and exotic species of bird. Koh Silah, is 2 Kilometers from Haht Bor Muang Beach.

Places of Interest in KOH LANTA DISTRICT

Lanta Islands National Park (อุทยานแห่งชาติเกาะลันตา) covers 152 square kilometers of Lanta Islands. This island forms the most southern district of Krabi Province. It was known long ago by its name in the Malay language, Pulao Satak, which means Long Beach Island. Later so many Thais, both Buddhist and Muslim, came to live on the island that there seemed to be a million eyes, which is what some people think Lanta means in Thai. Others hold that the name is corrupted from Javanese lan tas, and means a fish grill (which is built of wood with a square grill on top where the fish are set in a circle). Several important islands are in the national park.





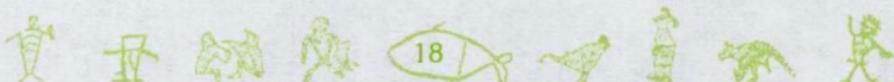
Lanta Yai Island (เกาะลันตาใหญ่) is where the District and National Park offices are located. Island geography is mountainous and rugged, especially near the southern tip; some beaches are gravelly, others have fine white sands. A clan of Chao Ley, or sea gypsies are resident on Koh Yao Yai, and they preserve many of their ancient customs and ceremonies; e.g., the setting of ceremonial boats adrift to bring good luck and prosperity on the full moon nights of the sixth and eleventh months. This and other features of their lives are open to view. To visit the island take a regularly scheduled ferry from Ban Hua Hin Pier in Tambon Koh Klahng; Bor Muang Pier in Tambon Sai Kao; or Jao Fah Pier in Krabi Town.

Taleng Beng Island (เกาะตะเล็งเบ็ง) This island is in some ways a smaller version of Phi Phi Ley: Made of limestone, honeycombed with caves, inhabited by the same swifts whose nests are made into soup. Small beaches and caves appear when the tide ebbs.

Hah Islands (หมู่เกาะห้า) A group of five islands. Hah Yai Island has a field of grass on its ridgeline. Another island resembles in shape a sailboat; one has water that passes from one side to another beneath it. There is some coral in shallow waters.

Ngai Island (เกาะไหง) A fine sandy beach and coral reefs rundown the east side of this island. It is perfect for diving. Regular ferries and charter craft are available from Pak Meng Beach in Trang Province.

Rok Nai Island (เกาะรอกไน) is composed largely of formidable cliffs. On the east side are a fine sandy beach and coral gardens growing around sea rocks. On the north side are San Jao Bay and Tohng Bay



Rok Nok Island (เกาะรอกนอก) The southeast and southern ends of this island have fine sand beaches and shallow water corals. Also not to be missed are Man Sai Bay

and Talu Beach. Transport to the island is via charter from either pak Meng Beach in Trang Province or from Lanta Yai Island. There are tents for rent, contact Lanta National Park Tel. (075) 629018-9

Hin Dang (หินแดง) This submerged open water reef in the Andaman features a multiplicity of colourful corals to attract serious scuba divers.

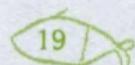
LOCAL FESTIVALS AND RELIGIOUS RITES

Krabi Berk Fah Andaman (กระเบี่ยงฟ้าอันดามัน) This festival takes place in November and celebrates the opening of the tourist season in Krabi. Watersport competitions, cultural shows, and good-natured fun are the schedule.



The Setting Adrift of the Chao Ley Boats (ประเพณีลอยเรือชาวเล) takes place on Lanta Islands during full moon of the sixth and eleventh months in the lunar calendar. This is religious rite performed by Sea Gipsies who gather on the beach near Ban Saladan Village. They dance their famous Rong Geng round the boats to be set adrift.

Ceremonies feature singing and dancing; the reason for the fest is to bring prosperity and happiness to the participants, it is something hard to find elsewhere.



INTERESTING ADVENTURES!

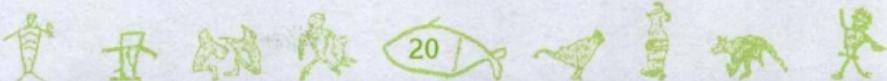
Sea Canoeing : Enjoy the breath-taking beauty and uncanny peace of a voyage among the mangroves, caves and limestone massifs of Ao Tahlehn Bay and Koh Hong Is. in Krabi, and Tahm Pee Hua Toh (Big Headed Ghost) Cave in Ao Luk District. For details contact the following businesses :

Company	Telephone
Sea Kayak Krabi	(075) 630 059, 01-228 4507
B. B. Canoe	(075) 637 147-8
Sea Canoe Thailand	(075) 637 170
Princess Watersports	(075) 637292



Rock Climbing : Krabi's strange and beautiful limestone cliffs have become popular rock and mountain climbing attractions for adventurers from around the globe. The uninitiated needn't be afraid, local companies are happy to teach and climbs have been mapped out for every level of expertise. The beaches of Rai Ley and Nam Mao have many such companies, including :

Company	Telephone
Krabi Bihna Pah	01-676 0642
Krabi Cliff Man	01-230 4619
King Climbers	01-476 0270
Pra Nang Rock Climbers	01-464 6358
Pra Nang Rock Design	
Hot Rocks	
Tex's Rock Climbers	
Fun Climbing	



Bird-Watching : Bird-watching is especially good from January till April in the mangrove forests surrounding Kanab Nam Hill near Krabi Town. Many rare birds are to be seen there : Gurneys, Finfoots, Big-winged Brown Kingfishers, Egrets, Bitterns, Herons and more. Another excellent bird-watching sight is Khao Nor Chuchi Forest Preserve, commonly known as Tung Tiao, in Klong Tom District, a lowland forest populated by the nearly extinct and only recently re-discovered black-breasted Pitta Gurney.

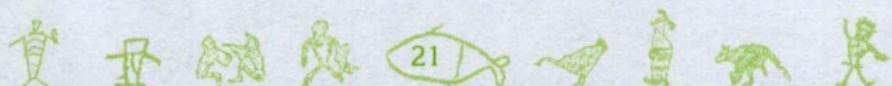
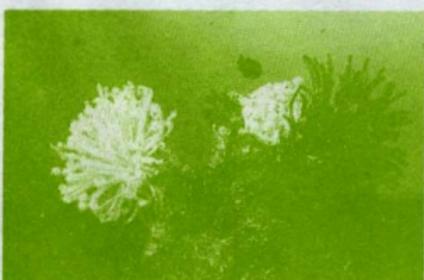
Forest Treks : Sights you'll never forget are around the next bush in Khao Nor Chuchi, which is criss-crossed by easy trails; other interesting trails are found in Khao Panom Benjah National Park.

For **bird-watching** and **forest trekking** details contact :

Company	Telephone
Vacation Village	(075) 637 136
Janpen Tours	(075) 612 004



Diving : Krabi's waters are great for snorkeling and scuba diving. Popular sites include : Koh Porda, Koh Hong, Koh Yung, Koh Phi Phi Lae, Hin Muang and Hin Dang Reefs, Koh Rok and Koh Ngai. Many companies cater to divers of every level and pocketbook; most are located at Ao Nang, Krabi Town, Phi Phi Don Is., and Koh Lanta.



1 Tourist Information Office, Tourist Police Office 612740

2 Thai Farmer Bank 611208, 612766-7

3 Union Bank Of Bangkok 612978-80

4 Siam Commercial Bank 620621, 611787

5 Krung Thai Bank 611193, 612775-6

6 Bangkok Bank 611187

7 Thai Military Bank 612718-20

8 Siam City Bank 611320-1

9 Government Savings Bank 611251

10 **11** Thai Airways Agent (10) 611348, 611389, / (11) 621303

12 Chamber Of Commerce 612220

13 Customs Office 611350

14 Post And Telegraph Office 611050

15 Provincial Land Office 620573

16 Provincial Forest Office 611396

17 Municipal Office 611120, 611080

18 Fire Brigade 611111

19 Immigration Office 611097

20 Provincial Administration Centre 611825

21 Provincial Police Station 611222

22 Vogue Department Store 620926

23 Mother Supermarket 612783-4

24 Srinakorn Department Store 611358, 611959

25 Long Tailed Boats To Ao Railay

26 Mini Buses To Had Klong Muang, Nong Thale

26 **27** Mini Buses To Had Nopparat Thara, Ao Nang, Shell Fossil

28 Mini Buses To Hua Hin (Pier To Ko Lanta)

29 Mini Buses To Ao Luk, Nua Klong

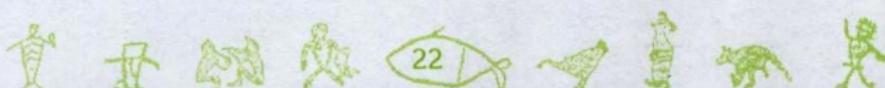
30 Mini Buses To Hospital, Telecommunication Centre and Bus Terminal

31 Mini Buses To Bor Muang (Pier To Ko Lanta)

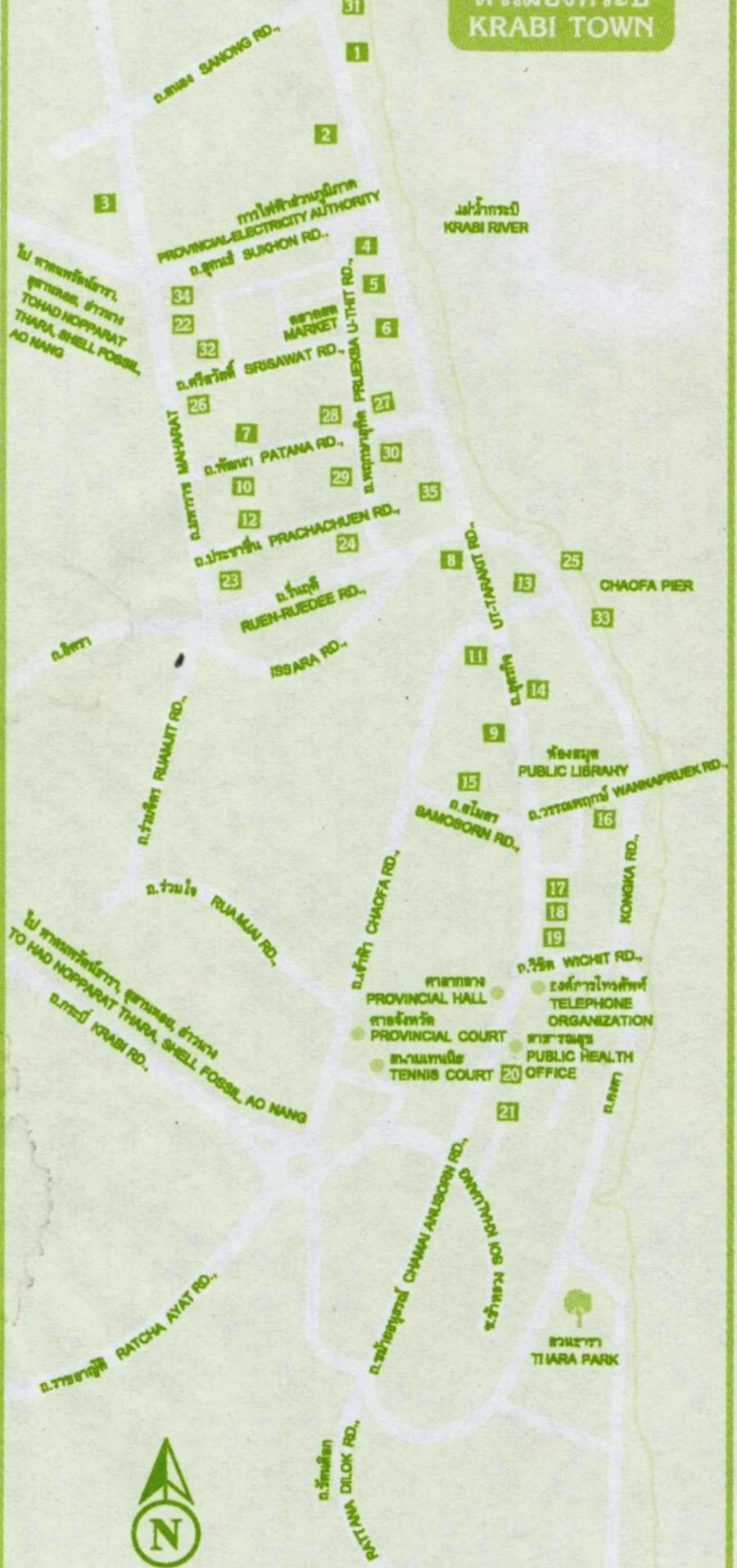
32 **33** Night Market

34 **35** Bookstore

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KRABI TOWN





Tourism Authority of Thailand

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E-mail : tathkt@phuket.ksc.co.th